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135

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AM

DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION
DOCKETS

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The weight and balance computations for 135 ops with the smaller type aircraft can be a little more demanding than the larger aircraft. However, the requirement to use certified scales goes too far. The concept of even weighing a female passenger (particularly one known as a celebrity) who is paying a healthy price for the ride may put a pilot's career at risk. A simple form on which each passenger is instructed to state their estimated weight fully clothed for that day with accessories such as lap tops, purses , etc. is sufficient. Then the pilot can make the judgement as to the validity of these statements, and add any corrections to the computations. The baggage can be weighed on any reasonably good bathroom scale and the weight and balance computations will be quite realistic. These computations will be more accurate than any assumed weights for the general population which is proving to be quite inaccurate. thanx